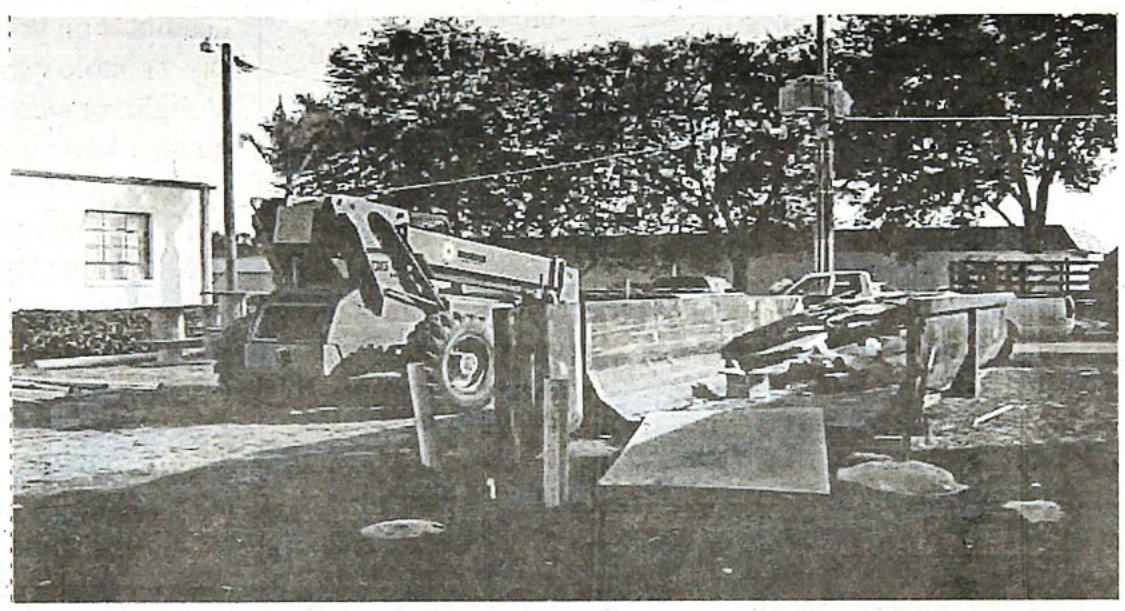
SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

MONARCH

Volume XXXV Issue 2 December 2000

Construction Update

Jay Kubica
Assistant Editor



Construction on the Saint Leo University Chiller Plant, which began last year, is nearing conclusion, and will be completed between March and May of 2001. Saint Edward Hall, home to many offices for faculty, staff and support services, is part of the major stages of the Chiller Plant installation. Construction will then move to Saint Francis Hall and the Cannon Memorial Library.

Prior to the renovations on Saint Edward, all faculty and staff were moved into various portables, as well as rooms in Henderson Hall, the Intensive English Institute, and new offices in Crawford Hall. They have operated in these facilities for the last semester while waiting for construction on Saint Edward to end.

In addition to the installation of the Chiller Plant cooling system in Saint Edward, which will replace conventional air conditioning, several renovations and improvements are being made. An elevator is being put in, which will allow easy access to all floors for handicapped persons. Bathrooms that meet the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements will be added on all floors. Also, a lab for the Psychology Department was added, including a two-way mirror for observation of subjects.

All construction on Saint Edward has been proceeding according to schedule. Faculty and staff will move back into the Hall for the Spring of 2001.

During the summer months, a great many other improvements to

See Construction pg. 7

Political Science Professor awarded Fulbright Scholarship

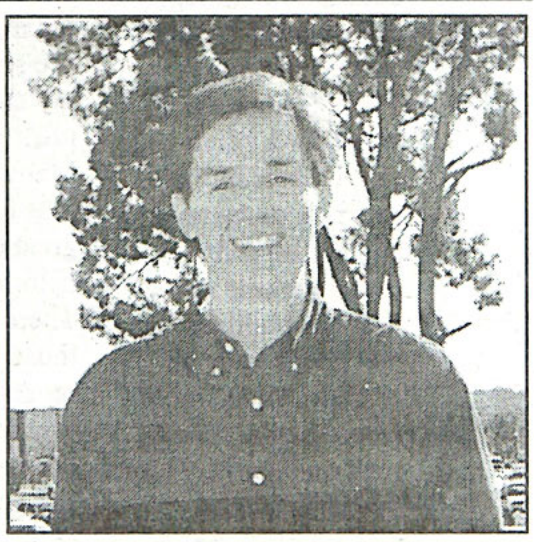
Jay Kubica
Assistant Editor

Dr. Jamie Pasley, a political science professor at Saint Leo University, has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship on the Information Revolution and International Security. The scholarship will take him to the University of Quebec at Montreal this spring semester, where he will study the Canadian International Information Strategy and the development of information technologies in the developing world.

"It's a great opportunity," Pasley said, "It gives me an opportunity to meet with Canadian policy makers. I'm also looking forward to the cultural side of Montreal."

Dr. Hudson Reynolds, Chair of the Political Science department, expressed his best wishes for Dr. Pasley. "The faculty wish him the very best, and he will certainly be missed from the faculty intramural team," Dr. Reynolds said. "The scholarship honors the individual, but the fact that a visiting professor had been awarded one of these prestigious scholarships is another indication of the high quality of instructors that our university is currently attracting."

Saint Leo will do its best to cope in the absence of Dr. Pasley. "Regrettably, there will be fewer offerings of upper-level Political Science courses during the spring, but two of the History faculty are teaching cross-over courses which may be applied to upper-level Political Science Requirements," Dr. Reynolds stated.



Dr. Pasley

While Dr. Pasley's stay in Montreal will undoubtedly be successful, the weather may pose a significant problem. "I understand it's a little like being based in Antarctica," Dr. Reynolds said. Dr. Pasley concurred. "It's going to be a great opportunity, if I don't freeze to death."

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I would like to bring to light the plight of the handicapped student. People who have never been in, a wheel chair, having trouble waking, breathing, or other infirmities, generally do not have an appreciation for being handicapped. The physically fit for the most part ignore the handicapped primarily because they fear being in that similar condition, as they grow older. Often they feel invincible, that they are special, impervious to becoming less than whole. Quite often it is a matter of the genes that we inherit that determines the hand that we are dealt. In other instances it could be an accident that cause's paralysis, or amputation(s). The point is that we are all subject to the possibility of becoming handicapped.

I have proposed a series of solutions to alleviate some of the daily problems that handicapped people encounter as they attempt the educational process. The following are some of the ideas that I would recommend:

1. That we initiate the addition of strategically placed handicapped parking. There is nothing worst for a handicapped person than to arrive on campus and not be able to find a parking space near the building that needs to be accessed. An example would be the library with only two spaces provided, that are almost always full. We need at least two more spaces to accommodate students.
2. That we initiate the idea that accessibility to all campus building with sliding doors. This would provide access to those who use wheelchairs as a means of transport.
3. To install ramps to provide access for those who are handicapped.
4. To make all restrooms handicapped accessible. Some restrooms need additional width and support rails. Other bathrooms need to have magnetic door closers, instead of no lock at all. This would eliminate exposing yourself to the rest of the world while using the facility.
5. All buildings over one story should either have an elevator, or handicapped parking at each floor such as McDonalds center, and the bookstore.

We all are our brother's keeper; but for the grace of GOD goes I. I'm asking for the moral support of the entire student body in joining my enthusiasm in accomplishing this daunting task. Many students ask "What's in it for me". My reply is a great overwhelming sense of helping others less fortunate. There is no taller man than those who struggle helping others.

What else can I say to persuade you in this necessary, and obvious need ?

Roger S. Polley

Movie Review: *Lost Souls*

Kalli Marangos
Copy Editor

Does the devil scare you? How about the possibility of the Antichrist being reborn into an unsuspecting human soul . . . tomorrow? Well, if that's the stuff that causes you to put another dead-bolt on your door, say a couple extra prayers at night, or sleep with a butcher knife under your pillow, then *Lost Souls* will definitely fuel your fire. Winona Ryder and Ben Chaplin star in this thriller directed by Janusz Kaminski (*Schindler's List, Saving Private Ryan*).

Maya Larkin (Ryder) is a young woman with a checkered past that includes demonic possession. After her demon was exorcised, she joined the Catholic Church, graduated from a community college, and now teaches children at the Church. Her new life is interrupted when Father Lareaux, (John Hurt) the man who performed her exorcism, deems a convicted serial killer possessed. They attempt an exorcism, but something goes horribly wrong during the extraction of the killer's demon spirit. We now learn that the Antichrist has been plotting his comeback, and will attempt to do so by transforming into the body of a grown man named Peter Kelson (Chaplin). Kelson is the author of true-crime books and does not believe in the existence of Heaven or Hell. Thus, Maya's task of making him understand the trouble he faces is a difficult one.

The photography of the film marvelously adds to its charm and is comparable to that of the movie *7even*, for it is extremely dark and has virtually no light to contrast it. If any colors *are* used, they are so dull that *Lost Souls* almost seems to be a black and white film which adds to its mood of gloomy intensity. Most of the movements of the actors are slowed way down, increasing the suspense of this religious thriller.

No blood and gore though, folks. Just straight up fear. This movie is centered on the idea that our parents and preachers have been warning us about since birth, the possibility of living in a world governed by Satan. No exposed intestines, bloody eyeballs, or chainsaws, just pure, unbridled anxiety as time ticks away . . . nearing the inevitable transformation.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Monarch Staff

Editor-in-Chief	**Kate Futrell**
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Layout Editor	**Kate Futrell**
Copy Editor	**Kalli Marangos**
Advisors	**Dr. Edmonds**
	Dr. Baglione

****Monarch Office is located in the basement of Saint Francis Hall. Office Extension X8316.**

Message from Learning Resource Center

By: Joanne MacEachran

The Learning Resource Center is an academic support system for all students who matriculate at Saint Leo University, and we are dedicated to providing appropriate instructional support to assist students in fulfilling their potential and reaching their learning goals.

The Center is not only for students in academic difficulty, but for any student who wishes to improve his/her grades and understanding in a course. Most students need a little help somewhere along the way. It may be that one chapter in physics, or the lone research paper in history that is difficult to complete. The Learning Resource Center is the place to find the necessary help to succeed.

Four professional tutors provide expert tutoring in Law, Business and Hospitality, Writing, Math and other fields. Over 78 hours per week of professional tutoring is provided for Saint Leo students. Peer tutors who are trained in a variety of learning and teaching techniques are also available for selected subjects such as accounting, biology, and math. The peer tutors, usually successful upperclassmen, are carefully screened and selected.

Students may make appointments with tutors or simply drop in for help with a quick question. Appointments may be for the entire semester or on a more short-term basis. For example, if math has always been a problem, the student may want to sign up for a tutoring schedule for the whole term. If the student only needs help with organizing research notes in an English Literature class, the student may sign up for two or three sessions. If the biology assignment is confusing, the student may just stop by the Center and ask for clarification.

Tutors can also assist students in drafting and organizing papers, in time management, and studying for exams.

We are located on the ground floor of Julia Deal Lewis Hall. We have two large sections in our Center with open space and tables for small group work and smaller offices for individual tutoring. We are also a place where students can relax on the comfortable couches and over-stuffed chairs. We have coffee, Jolly Ranchers, and the occasional basket of sweets. The Center also houses a computer lab with word processing as well as math software programs, which provide additional practice for class assignments. Most computers have Internet capability and are linked to the college library. Students begin their projects in the Learning Resource Center supported by the expertise of the tutor and learn effective skills.

The Center is open

Monday through Thursday from 8 am to 8 pm
Friday from 8 am to 5 pm
Sunday from 1 pm to 8 pm

If you need help, please come to the Learning Resource Center, and we will provide whatever assistance we can.

Merry Christmas!

Committee Considers Cafeteria Woes

Shan Anderson
Journalism Class

In recent years there have been complaints about the food service at our campus cafeteria. In a 1999 survey of six southern states, our school had the most varied student diet of the institutions studied. This disparate preference in taste, said manager Rich Vogel, is the reason Saint Leo's multicultural salad bowl of students is difficult to accommodate.

In an attempt to make improvements in the service, quality, nutrition, and presentation of the food, the food committee met on October 4 to bring complaints from the student body to focus. The group included Nurse Jan Waldstein, Vice President of Student Affairs Ed Dadez, cafeteria manager Rich Vogel, head chef Darwin Hillard, and food production coordinator Kathy Hillard, along with 12 students.

An important topic of the meeting was the nutrition in the menus. Members of the committee concurred that the majority of the students preferred more nutritional content in their food choices instead of canned foods and cooked cuisine fried in what seemed to be heavy oils or butter. To assuage the upset, the cafeteria staff agreed to employ the committee's specific requests concerning fried foods. Also, food labels will be displayed at the buffets that contain nutritional information for each dish.

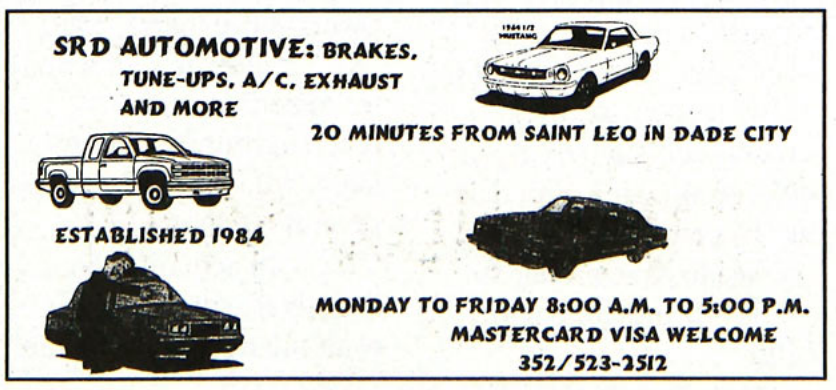
The cafeteria staff received kudos for the increase in vegetarian alternatives, a delectable variety in desserts, and their plan to celebrate diverse cultures through ethnic theme nights. The chef has also pledged to make dishes from personal recipes brought into the kitchen by students.

"All in all, my friends and I have noticed an improvement in the selection of food since last year," comments junior Dave Karlewicz. "Yet they need to have more variety in the choices in the weekend brunch menu." In response to this general concern, the manager is debating whether to occasionally substitute chicken tenders and cheese sticks for the burgers and fries.

The proposal for smaller meal plans for campus, as well as commuter students, is still being negotiated through the Office of Student Affairs.

The food committee is scheduled to meet Thursday, November 2 to follow up on the progress of the implementations. Whether supporters plan to attend the next meeting or become members for the remainder of the year, all new students with comments are welcome.

"Change can only come from collaborative efforts," said Nurse Waldstein.



A History Lesson

Shan Anderson
Journalism Class

For over a century, Saint Leo professors have served as the solid pillars which support institutional success. Among the steady flow of teachers that have come and gone, a treasured few have remained vital forces through the years.

"One of the plusses that has kept me here for so many years is the dedicated faculty," says Chuck Fisk, a professor of economics who has taught here for over 29 years. In addition to his fondness for the team of teachers, Fisk asserted that the unsung heroes of the university historically have been the secretaries and office workers who make up the staff. To him, they continue to typify the spirit of optimism and alacrity that Saint Leo depends on.

Professors who have experienced Saint Leo's progression over the years witnessed the same trends. "The institution is more serious and professional now than in years past," affirms Jack McTague, a history professor of 24 years. "Due to our changed status from college to university, we have more masters programs and Internet classes, better technology, and higher standards for hiring faculty."

With the institutional advances over time came a changing mentality among students. McTague believes that although the number of dedicated, quality students has slightly increased, young adults have lost their sense of adventure due to the quickening pace of life.

"Unfortunately, an increasing amount of students immediately jump into a major instead of exploring options," testified McTague.

Tim Crosby, who teaches in the Physical Education department, has also noticed a changing student body.

"The students in my freshmen mentor class are under the impression that if they don't work hard, they will be unprepared for this technological era."

Crosby not only teaches and coaches the men's and women's tennis teams but was a member of Saint Leo's first 4-year graduating class in 1965 and has remained here for 34 years. Crosby enjoys Saint Leo because of the various teaching opportunities he's had, not to mention the exciting rate at which the institution is growing.

Crosby remembers when there used to be a gym between Crawford hall and the Cafeteria. " It was the only gym in Florida where you could get rained out on the inside."

Before Dr. Crosby was a student at Saint Leo, the golf course was a dairy farm, and De Chantel Hall was an orange packing building for the Abbey.

Though there have been advancements on campus and positive steps in the realm of education, students still grumble over the same inconveniences that were concerns 20 years ago. " The residence halls and the cafeteria will always be a concern for students," stated McTague. "Up until five or six years ago, students filed into one long line at the cafeteria and had little to no choice in what was placed on their plate."

Dorm living, however, is just one aspect of the larger complaint directed toward the deterioration of campus life. Old pubs, bars and hangout spots have long since disintegrated. Moreover, Greek life, which has traditionally created the social events for on-campus students, has endured a nationwide crackdown, causing most local fraternities and sororities to become national. Since no noteworthy organizations have replaced the vigor of the now dissolving Greek system, the lack of festivities has engendered a migration for events off campus.

"I miss the activities that really brought the campus together," Fisk exclaimed. Fisk believes that to create a stronger, more vibrant community, we need to drastically increase the enrollment of residential students and utilize the lakefront for social activities.

Much about the institution of Saint Leo has been restructured. However, in the midst of changes and enhancements, Saint Leo must celebrate its rich history and promote its most distinctive qualities.

Power of Plastic

Shan Anderson
Journalism Class

Your greatest college danger may not rest in the affects of drugs or alcohol.

In fact, the mounting expense of your new refrigerator on your credit card could seal your doom financially years after graduation. Credit cards seem to be a necessity of modern life; after all, plastic makes money easily accessible in emergencies. However, outstanding credit debt is terrifying, as college students with debt are forced to cancel classes to save money or work full-time to pay off bills.

In fact, in 1998, the University of Indiana reported it lost more students to credit card debt than to academic failure. In an online poll conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), 28 percent of the 1,628 respondents said they owed less than $1,000 to credit card companies, but 22 percent admitted to owing more than $7,500.

But "it's all a matter of self control," protested Junior Cindy Daly, who currently holds several credit cards.

In actuality, enticing advertising can get even the most responsible student into trouble. According to Bankcard Holders of America, 81 percent of students have received a first credit card by the end of freshman year compared with 60 percent in 1996. Also, 70 percent of undergraduates at a four-year college possessed at least one credit card.

Bankcard Holders of America concluded that the dramatic increase in the number of college credit card holders in the past ten years is due to the credit card solicitors and their relentless pursuit of students on campus. These companies corner students not only for their customer loyalty but because clients with no job and no income rely on responsible parents to pay off expenses.

"Approximately one

See Plastic pg.7

Saint Leo Abbey Gift Shop:
Religious Articles
and Books

Also don't forget to stop by the
Abbey during your visit...
a place for peace and solitude

Students 10% discount with this ad

Benedictine Monks of Florida

Next to Saint Leo College

Tuesday to Sunday 1:30 until 4:00

352/588-2606

SAINT LEO ABBEY

The Pub is Here

Dave McCarron
Journalism Class

It is finally here.

After years of broken promises and passed deadlines by the University, we finally have a pub: The Abbey Road Tavern. The Tavern, as it is most commonly referred to by the students, opened this summer across the street next to the Saint Leo Abbey Golf Course.

For as long as most current students can remember, a plan has been in the works to build a bar in which the students can call their own. With the construction of the Tavern, now they have a recreational place they can attend without driving 30 minutes. And with a predominantly student clientele, most of the locals of the area are absent from the Tavern.

So far, it seems to be growing on the students. Eamonn O' Nuallain, a senior at Saint Leo University, has, like a lot of other upper classmen, been hearing the rumors of a on-campus pub for the last couple of years. But the Tavern has not disappointed him. "The wait was well worth it," he said.

However, the finality is not the only thing that the students are pleased with. Mike Hopper, another senior at Saint Leo, said, "It adds a new dimension to Saint Leo University".

The excitement from the students will not likely decrease, because the Tavern's main purpose is to serve the students.

"We are open to suggestions," said Sharon, the Tavern's manager.

Sharon, who is eager to help anyone with a question or a concern said, "Karaoke is every Wednesday night, and we'll have bands come and play on Tuesdays and Fridays." She also purchased a pool table and a dartboard on the students' suggestions.

But the Tavern is not just a place to go and enjoy alcoholic beverages. Their food menu, although not fancy and extravagant, is adequate. It is an American style restaurant serving burgers and sandwiches.

On the whole, the Tavern is a very welcome addition to Saint Leo, and it is a good step towards the University that the students want.

Student Profile: Cas Sumner

Kalli Marangos
Copy Editor

Castle (Cas) Sumner is a junior at Saint Leo University. He is a native of San Antonio, FL and attended Pasco High School. He has some interesting views about school, politics, and life in general.

When the *Monarch* asked him what aspects of Saint Leo he liked most, Sumner replied, "The best things are the small class sizes and the teachers." His favorite professor here is, "Hudson Reynolds, because he is unique in his teaching ways." Although Sumner likes most of the teaching staff, for reasons undisclosed he feels he could do without the administration.

Sumner played soccer for about ten years of his life, and was a midfielder for the Saint Leo Lions during his first two years here. He is no longer with the team, and when asked why, he said he "has more important things to do." This is understandable, for he is an English major, Political Science minor, and holds a 3.4 G.P.A. while taking five classes and working a part-time job.

Because of his obvious political interest, the *Monarch* inquired of his views on the Election 2000 fiasco. When speaking about the voting process, Sumner believes "there's not a better way to do it. The only reason everyone is questioning it now is because the race came so close." As for his political standpoint, Sumner is for small government and big business, therefore the final results pleased him.

On a lighter note, in addition to attending most of the Saint Leo men's soccer home games, Sumner enjoys playing basketball with his friends, listening to contemporary jazz music (and a little Miles Davis), and spending time with Jessica, his girlfriend of five years (sorry ladies).

As for influences, Sumner says that his grandfather has played a major role in his life. Maybe he is the one who taught Sumner that money isn't everything, for what lies at the end of Sumner's rainbow is not material wealth, but "knowledge." And when the *Monarch* asked him what main rule he lives by, he humbly responded: "To treat people as I would like to be treated".

All in all, this eccentric twenty-year old has a well-rounded head on his shoulders, and it seems his grandfather's wish for Cas to become a "good and decent guy" has come true.

Club Profile: Samaritans

Allison Myatt
Journalism Class

Students who are in Samaritans have a motive behind the good deeds they do.

The motive is not for themselves but for those less fortunate. Members who have joined this organization have joined with the intention of helping those in the community who need help.

For example, some of the Samaritans have volunteered for the Coastal Clean Up, volunteering in the community to help those who need yard work and various things done and Boys Village in hopes of reaching a personal goal for their own mission statements.

This year the Samaritans have touched the life of one child who is less fortunate than others have. Members of the organization sold raffle tickets for a hayride and accepted personal donations to send to one child to a leadership retreat at the Abbey Retreat Center. With the good nature of those who donated what they could the Samaritans reached their goal to send an underprivileged child to the retreat center for a leadership retreat.

Being in Samaritans has both an upside and a downside. The great part about it is "knowing that you are making a difference in the lives of those that need it the most," David Karlewicz said. But not everything is good about being a Samaritan. "You see things like drug houses, and rundown areas," Karlewicz said.

When asked why he was in Samaritans, Karlewicz, an active member since the spring of 2000 said, "Samaritans is a worthwhile cause and I like to give of myself."

The Student Body

A Health and Wellness Promotion Column from the SLU Health Center

***A REMINDER* -- December 12 from 3 to 10 p.m. the SLU Health Center's special "We Love You, Tony" Blood Drive will be outside McDonald Center. Come give a little and get a lot. Free t-shirts and eats.**

...so who's Tony?

Tony Hamacher is Student Affairs' Paige Ramsey-Hamacher's husband and baby Kylie's daddy. He's Dale and Rhonda's son and Christian, Benjamin and Melissa's brother. And, he's a young man in his prime, only 26 years old, with a loving family and so many things to live for. Tony is doing his best right now to be positive, to follow his doctor's orders, and to basically stay alive. Tony has been diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL).

On December 12 the SLU Health Center is providing an opportunity for everyone in the Saint Leo University and Pasco County communities to come forward to be tested to become a possible bone marrow donor. Tony desperately needs a match. Citrus Regional Blood Center will be on campus to assist those who wish to participate in both donating blood and being tested to become a potential bone marrow donor for Tony. The test is simple and doesn't take much time. Donors requesting the bone marrow test will be notified that they will be listed on the national bone marrow donor registry, so if they are not a match for Tony, they may be a match for someone else in the nation either now or for years to come. Citrus Regional Blood Center representatives will be available to answer questions about bone marrow and blood donation for potential donors. There is a nationwide search in progress to find a match, but so far there hasn't been one identified. Possibly someone here at Saint Leo is the one person among millions who could save Tony's life.

If you are a past blood donor, blessings to you and yours...see you again on December 12 right outside McDonald Center. If you've seen the Blood Mobile on campus before and passed it by, please reconsider stopping in and donating this next time. Time is precious and so is life and those that care.

What is leukemia?

Leukemia is cancer of the blood cells, usually the white blood cells.

What are the types of leukemia?

There are four main types of leukemia, which can be further divided into subtypes. When classifying the type of leukemia, the first steps are to determine if the cancer is:

1. **Lymphocytic or myelogenous leukemia:**

Cancer can occur in either the lymphoid or myeloid white blood cells.

- When the cancer develops in the lymphocytes (lymphoid cells), it is called lymphocytic leukemia.
- When the cancer develops in the granulocytes or monocytes (myeloid cells), it is called myelogenous leukemia.

2. **acute or chronic Leukemia:**

Leukemia is either acute or chronic.

- acute leukemia

The new or immature cells, called blasts, remain very immature and cannot perform their functions. The blasts increase in number rapidly, and the disease progresses quickly.

- Chronic leukemia

There are some blast cells present, but they are more mature and are able to perform some of their functions. The cells grow more slowly, and the number increases less quickly, so the disease progresses gradually.

Based on these findings, the leukemia is then classified into one of the four main types of leukemias: acute myelogenous leukemia (AML); chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML); acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL); or chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL).

What is acute lymphocytic leukemia?

Acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) is a cancer of the blood in which too many lymphocytes, a type of white blood cells, are produced by the bone marrow and by organs of the lymph system.

Normally, the lymphocytes fight infection by making antibodies that attack harmful elements. But, in ALL, the cells are immature and over-abundant. They crowd out other blood cells, and may collect in the blood marrow, and lymph tissue.

ALL is the most common type of leukemia in young children. This type of leukemia may also affect adults, especially those 65 and older.

What are the symptoms of acute lymphocytic leukemia?

The following are the most common symptoms for acute lymphocytic leukemia, however, each individual may experience symptoms differently:

- anemia
- bleeding
- bruising
- fever
- persistent weakness
- tiredness
- aches in bones and joints
- swollen lymph nodes

The symptoms of acute lymphocytic leukemia may resemble other blood disorders or medical problems. Consult your physician for a diagnosis.

How is acute lymphocytic leukemia diagnosed?

In addition to a complete medical history and physical examination, diagnostic procedures for acute lymphocytic leukemia may include:

- additional blood tests and other evaluation procedures
- bone marrow biopsy
- spinal tap

Treatment for acute lymphocytic leukemia:

Specific treatment for acute lymphocytic leukemia will be determined by your physician(s) based on:

- your overall health and medical history
- extent of the disease
- your tolerance for specific medications, procedures, or therapies
- expectations for the course of the disease
- your opinion or preference

Treatment may include (individually or in combination) the following:

- chemotherapy
- radiation therapy
- bone marrow transplantation

This health care information is provided as a public service by the University of Maryland MedicalSystem, an academic medical center located in Baltimore, Maryland.

University of Maryland Medical System 2000

Movie Review: The Grinch

Nikki Franchini
Photo Editor

Everyone has Christmas memories of watching *Dr. Seuss' How The Grinch Stole Christmas*. Now you have the option of watching the live-action adaptation of the movie.

Jim Carrey, who stars as the Grinch, seems to be only natural to play the role. The plot stays true to what Dr. Seuss would have wanted. The flashbacks of the Grinch's childhood add to the comedy only Carrey could do so well. *How The Grinch Stole Christmas* includes the genius sets of Whoville and the amazing make-up jobs on not only the Grinch, but on the Whos as well.

Directed by Ron Howard, this movie is suitable for all ages. The Grinch will have you laughing.

Sports Update

Dave McCarron
Journalism Class

The weather has changed and so has the focus of Saint Leo University sports on this campus. Yes, Saint Leo's favorite sport, the men's and women's basketball season commenced on Nov. 17. The two teams look forward to taking on the Sunshine State Conference with an eager and optimistic attitude.

The men are looking to improve on last year's 12-15 record, and with the All SSC Second Team selection Brett Slaughter being the only major loss from last season, the Lions have a good chance to reach that goal.

Senior Daniel Palmer (14.6 ppg) and Junior Matt Hogarth (14.4 ppg) are the only returning starters, but the Lions have four other upperclassmen in Junior Daniel Fallon, Junior Sean Wood, Senior Gary Downing, and Senior James Turner to help cushion the loss of Slaughter.

Some key new faces for the men include two freshmen, Javier Veloso and Jackie Steward, both from Miami, FL. They will be joined by juniors John Stolard from Tampa, and D'Maija Stewart from London, England.

Coach Mike Hanks thinks that size will make a difference this year. "With the bigger athletes, we should be more competitive," he said.

The women's basketball team is also trying to bounce back from a sub-par year. Returning to help the Lions improve on their 5-22 record are starters Senior Samantha Campbell (10.0 ppg) and Sophomore Ebony Winn (5.8ppg 6.4 rpg) Senior Anthia Cassanova and Junior Allison Lamb are two key veterans returning for the 2000-01 season.

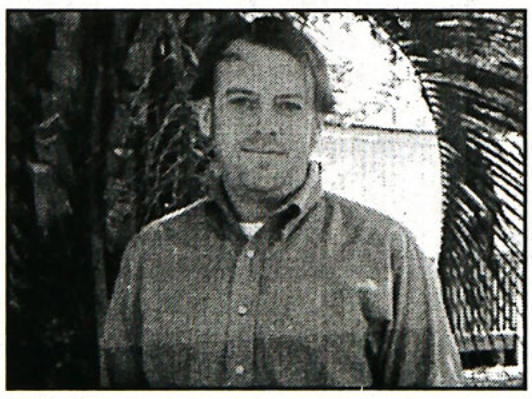
To make up for the loss of the three starters, Marilyn Brown, Tasha Ealey, and Angela Newsom, Coach Dave Wilson has brought in a group of freshmen.

With the returning veterans and the spirited newcomers, Coach Wilson is really excited about the 2000-01 season.

"I think we have more depth and more competitive spirit," he says. It should not be hard to improve upon last year's marks, and Coach Wilson is very confident that his team is heading in the right direction.

New Faculty Profile: Dr. Kieffer

Kate Futrell
Editor-in-chief & Layout Editor



One of the newest additions to the Saint Leo University faculty is Dr. Kevin M. Kieffer. Dr. Kieffer has a doctorate from Texas A&M University in Psychology. He says his specialty is counseling and research methodology.

Originally from Indiana, Dr. Kieffer now commutes to Saint Leo from Tampa. When commenting on Saint Leo Dr. Kieffer said, "I love the weather, and I am enjoying the small school environment here."

Dr. Kieffer's upcoming plans include making the psychology club more prominent on campus. He would also like to see new psychology courses added and work with the masters program.

Dr. Kieffer is not what he appears. After going home from a hard day's work at Saint Leo he loses his suit and becomes an outdoorsman. His hobbies include riding motorcycles, car repair, tennis, and golf. If his double personality isn't enough, Dr. Kieffer is the youngest member of the faculty at 28 years old. He comments, "I am often mistaken for a student because of my age."

Dr. Kieffer is currently working on many projects. Later this year he plans to be published in the journal *Research in Schools*. He is most known for his work, *Why Generalizationablility Theory is Essential and Classical Test Theory is Often Inadequate."*

Dr. Kieffer's office is temporarily located in Module four, between the IEI building and Saint Edwards Hall.

Plastic from pg. 4

half of Saint Leo University's 9,000 students pay for school with their credit cards," verified Crystal Howey, secretary of Finance and Accounting. "These credit card users charge everything from their tuition and room and board to small school fees." According to Howey, Saint Leo has no history of irresponsible student spending. She confirmed that responsible cardholders must make purchases within their budget, pay off more than the minimum payment for each month, and maintain only one card.

However, with a total credit debt of more than $20,000 for some graduating seniors, credit debt is becoming a major concern for schools nationwide. Indeed, the American Credit Counselors Corp. concluded this is not just a student predicament. The corporation estimated that the average American credit card holder owes $13,000 to credit card companies.

Construction from pg. 1

the campus were made. The Chiller Plant was made operational in Lewis Hall, Crawford Hall, Roderick Hall, Alumni Hall, the McDonald Center, and the Marion-Bowman Activities Center. Saint Leo University, in particular Saint Edward and Lewis, will be used as a hurricane shelter. A new fire and life safety system is being added to Lewis, Crawford, Saint Edward, the Marion-Bowman Activities Center, the McDonald Center, and Henderson and Benoit Halls. A natural gas converter was put in, which will reduce operating costs for heating, cooking and laundry facilities at Crawford, Henderson, Benoit, Roderick, and the pool. Lewis, the McDonald Center, the Marion-Bowman Activities Center, Saint Francis, and the Cannon Memorial Library saw the addition of a more efficient lighting system. Of great interest to the students was the construction of the Abbey Tavern, an addition which has been enjoyed all year.

Throughout the construction effort, projects have remained on schedule, resulting in a better, brighter Saint Leo. Physical Plant Director Jim Killmeyer said of the construction effort, "Every day it becomes that much more evident that we're doing the right thing at the right time."

Christmas Fun for Everyone

Mark A. Relano
Journalism Class

Christmas season is here, and there is a lot to do in the adjacent counties surrounding Saint Leo. Old World charm and country gatherings are a trademark of the Pasco area when it comes to yuletide activities. So come join in the spirit of the first Christmas in the new millennium.

The month of December is a magical time around Dade City, and much is offered to celebrate the season. The first holiday-related event began on Dec. 1. The Magical Night Christmas Parade in downtown Dade City presented marching bands and colorful lighted floats for all to enjoy.

The Country Christmas Stroll, also in downtown Dade City, followed the very next day, on Dec. 2. Stores and businesses were festively decorated and remained open during evening hours. Free treats and cider were available from many of the shops downtown, carolers were dressed in period costumes, and horse-drawn carriage rides were offered.

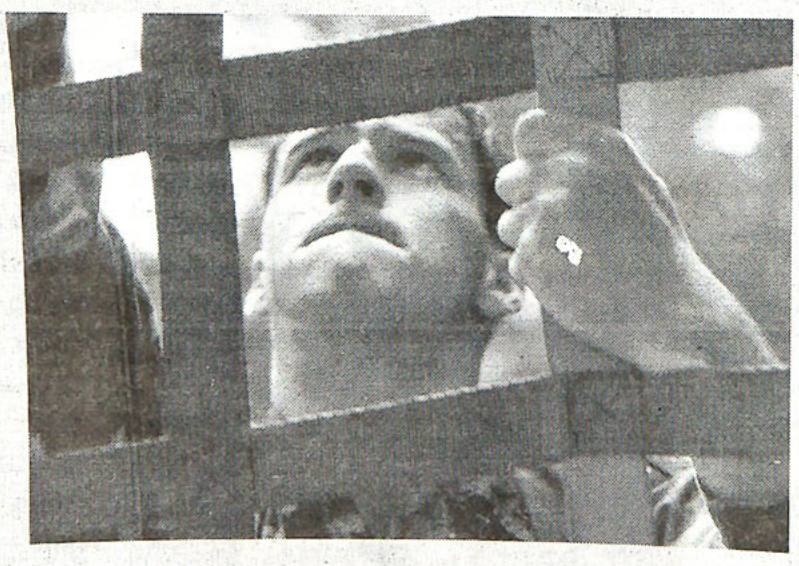
On Dec. 9, Carols on Main Street came to downtown Zephyrhills, providing a full day of arts and crafts, Christmas caroling, and a visit from Santa.

One of the major holiday activities in Pasco County is the Church Street Christmas, held Dec. 21-23. Life-size Christmas cards line Church Avenue and all the residents on Church decorate their homes with lights and Christmas paraphernalia. Yours truly lives on Church, and I've already put up tons of lights to illuminate the night sky. The street is blocked off, and only pedestrians are allowed to traverse it for three dazzling evenings.

From Dec. 23-Jan. 7, the Annual Christmas Skydive Boogie returns for two weeks and offers skydive formations, competitions, music and more at Skydive City, Zephyrhills.

Although Christmas is a magical time around here, there is also much to do on a regular basis in this area. The Zephyrhills Theatre runs six current movies, seven days a week, and is located on Gall Boulevard, about 10 minutes from Saint Leo.

If you're interested in historical buildings and the frontier era, you can visit The Pioneer Florida Museum Association Inc. Located on U.S. Highway 301, just a few minutes from downtown Dade City, is a piece of Florida's ancestry. In the Pioneer Museum, you can view an authentic one-room school house, (circa 1930), Methodist Church, Shoe Repair Shop, and the Trilby Train Depot. Also, on display are farm equipment and laboring devices used by pioneers and farm workers. Every year during Christmastide, The Pioneer Museum holds a free day of entry and provides free entertainment and refreshments. This year's open house was on Dec. 3.



after this, the corporate ladder will be a piece of [cake].

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